

Public Issues Report 4th Quarter 2007

Public File 2007 – 4th Quarter

News at

6:01am	7:01	8:01
6:15	7:15	8:15
6:31	7:31	8:31
6:45	7:45	8:45

October 1

It's official...former house speaker Newt Gingrich will not enter the race for president in 2008.

October 2

First it was shoes, then liquids, now airport screeners are taking a closer look at remote control toys. The transportation security administration says they're worried that terrorists could use the toys to trigger explosive devices.

October 3

Three senior house democrats are suggesting a war surtax to pay for the Iraq war, which is costing us 150-billion-dollars a year!

October 4

Never before seen pics of Diana and her boyfriend just hours before their death are now being released.

October 5

An Ashland University chemistry professor says three out of 22 Halloween toys tested last month contained unacceptable levels of lead in their paint. The professor tested everything from masks to candy buckets and drinking cups.

October 8

Some scientists believe they have figured out the mystery behind the appendix. It produces and protects good germs in your body and acts like a safe house for bacteria. Diseases like cholera or dysentery can clear the gut of useful bacteria so the appendix's job is to reboot the digestive system.

October 9

Congress is drafting a bill to force the justice department to fess up about its domestic spy program. Democrats also want the department to create a database of all the Americans illegally subjected to government eavesdropping.

October 10

The federal government is considering buying-up thousands of homes along the Mississippi coast and turning the land into a vast hurricane-protection zone.

October 11

Nearly 5,000 nurses in 15 northern California hospitals began a two-day walkout yesterday. They're protesting what they say were inadequate contract offerings.

October 12

The city of Los Angeles remains the country's homeless capital with more than 40,000 people living on the streets.

October 15

Between 2002 and 2004, cancer death rates dropped by an average of 2.1 percent a year. Thanks to screening tests that can spot precancerous polyps in time to remove them.

October 16

The social security trust fund is projected to go broke in 2041.

October 17

A new study revealed that bad language serves the needs of people for developing and maintaining solidarity.

October 18

About 20-thousand troops from eight National Guard units are being put on deck this morning for deployment to Iraq or Afghanistan.

October 19

Men taking any of the three erectile dysfunction drugs Viagra, Levitra or Cialis may be at an increased risk for sudden hearing loss.

October 22

Seven counties in southern California are under a "state of emergency" this morning as nearly a dozen wildfires continue to burn across the area. One person has been killed, four firefighters and several others hurt, and several homes destroyed.

October 23

The College Board's annual survey finds that the average tuition and fees at four-year public colleges have gone up nearly seven percent this year to over 6 thousand dollars for in-state students.

October 24

A new study suggests middle aged women who are overweight increase their risk of breast cancer by as much as 40 percent.

October 25

The world has reached the point of maximum oil output and production levels will be cut in half by 2030.

October 26

Mattel's fisher-price division is recalling an additional 38 thousand "go Diego go!" toys because of lead-contamination.

October 29

A newspaper says it found children as young as 10 making clothes in a sweatshop in India that may supply clothing to the gap chain.

October 30

The non-profit Consumers Union says some toys, dishes, jewelry and backpacks have "worrisome" levels of lead, but haven't been recalled yet.

October 31

A large new study of 17 hundred people has found no sign that vitamin d lowers the overall risk of dying from cancer like previous research had suggested.

November 1

The number of Americans lacking health insurance rose by nearly 8.6 million to 47 million from 2000 to 2006. According to the economic policy group, the increase was "driven primarily by the continued erosion in employer-provided health insurance."

November 2

Almost five million Totino's and Jeno's frozen pizzas with pepperoni toppings are being recalled because the pepperoni may be contaminated with E. coli.

November 5

After clocks are turned back, pedestrians walking during the evening rush hour are nearly three times more likely to be struck and killed by cars before the time change. More than 1 million pounds of ground beef has been recalled due to possible E. Coli contamination.

November 6

AAA says the national gas average has climbed almost 25 cents in the last three weeks because of the \$96 a barrel in crude oil. Due to the higher risk of death than any other drug, Bayer has stopped selling the anti-bleeding drug...Trasylol.

November 7

The Journal of the American Medical Association reports the extra 25 pounds does not increase a person's risk of developing cancer or heart disease. Researchers claim those energy drinks could also change the effectiveness of heart and blood pressure medications.

November 8

One of Wal-Marts top 12 toys of the year contain a chemical that turns into the powerful date rape drug... G-H-B

November 9

Gas buddy dot com is a website that uses "gas spotters" who volunteer their time searching cities for the cheapest gas in town. As we age, our sense of smell diminishes, in some cases as much as 60 percent as we head into the so-called golden years.

November 12

Americans generate and throw away about 700 billion pounds of garbage each year. The bureau of labor statistics says as of now, 43 percent of the nation's private workforce does not get paid for sick days... that's 50 million working Americans!

November 13

The air transport association says more than 27-million people will travel by air during the twelve days around Thanksgiving. The busiest airport days will be the Wednesday before turkey day...and the Sunday and Monday after.

A 30 year study of 23-hundred families finds the income gap between black and white families has gone up because the ladies are bringing in more dough. But black women aren't making enough to compensate for the inflation-adjusted drop in black mens' salaries!

November 14

The government accountability office says about 5 percent of the nation's medicaid providers owe more than a billion dollars in taxes... from last year.

Chlamydia is the new U.S. record STD reporting more than 1 million cases last year.

November 15

Ford and Honda have the "most" vehicles making the list of safest cars for 2008.

Folk need to get tested because doctors may be reusing needles & syringes as a way to save money. Yuck!

November 16

A mutated version of the common cold virus has killed ten people with pneumonia... and sickened 140 people with severe respiratory problems.

Congress voted to force lenders to get licenses, and hold them responsible for figuring out if borrowers can realistically make their house payments.

November 19

The average price of gas rose about 13 cents nationwide over the last two weeks and continues to climb.

November 20

The American College of Cardiology report shows about 100 additional women ages 35 to 44 are dying each year partly because of obesity.

A new study discovered that moms who slept five hours or less a day with newborns up to six months... were more likely than rested moms to have kept on the extra weight... a year after giving birth.

November 21

AAA expects about 39 million people to drive 50 miles or more from home this holiday.

The FDA says it has received reports of mood disorders and erratic behavior in people taking "Chantix".

November 22

A small town in Missouri is passing a new law that would make internet harassment a misdemeanor, with a fine of up to 500-dollars and 90 days in jail.

November 23

New York City is on track to have one of its lowest murder rates in four decades.

Sale of food gifts during the holidays accounted for 16-billion dollars from 2004 to 2006.

November 26

American Foods Group has recalled more than 96-thousand pounds of ground beef products in Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Ohio, Tennessee, Wisconsin and Virginia.

November 27

Nissan recalled 2002 & 2005-2006 Altima & Sentra models with because of stalling 2.5 liter engines.

November 28

Cardiologists say too much wine, beer or hard liquor can send your heart into an abnormal rhythm and create Holiday Heart Syndrome.

Com-Score says consumers spent 733 million dollars online Monday... the first time ever online sales topped 700 million bucks in "one day."

November 29

The Bush Administration is hoping to shame some nursing homes into improving patient care by posting a list of the 56 facilities considered the worst in 33 states.

Toyota says 264-thousand Lexus models are being recalled for faulty pipe designs that can lead to fuel leaks.

November 30

Realty-Trac says the foreclosure rates were the worst in Nevada, California, Florida and Ohio. 224 thousand reports were filed for home foreclosure in the u-s for October -- a 94 percent increase from October of last year.

New research discovered higher rates of breast and prostate cancer among women and men whose work day starts after dark.

December 3

Light beer is the best choice if you're watching your waistline over red wine & mixed drinks. Airlines' "on-time" performance at the three major regional airports is 13 percent below the national average.

December 4

Some in congress want to protect consumers from soaring interest rates, as high as 30 percent, on credit cards when their credit scores decline.

December 5

"Over the counter cold meds" are now made without "pseudo ephedrine" because Meth users were taking advantage of it.

Thousands of flu shot vaccines were poorly refrigerated resulting in wasting 20 million dollars a year. The Centers for Disease Control says it's been on for 2 years.

December 6

For the first time in 15 years the nation's teen birth rate has spiked

General Electric recalled 92-thousand built-in combination wall and microwave ovens under the brand names G-E, G-E profile and Kenmore because the door switch can overheat and catch fire.

December 7

The senate has voted to block a looming tax increase, which would cost millions of taxpayers an average of two-thousand bucks extra in April the bill provides a one-year fix for the alternative minimum tax.

December 10

59% of parents with teens who use the internet still believe it's a beneficial factor in their children's lives. It's gone down from 67% in 2004.

December 11

A number of studies have linked the Mediterranean diet to serious health benefits. It's a menu rich in fish, fruits, veggies, and nuts... and low in dairy foods and red meat.

December 12

Pre-Schoolers may be required to getting a flu shot if New Jersey's proposal goes through, it would be the first state.

After 9/11 and the anthrax scare, the Pentagon and US Postal Service stopped forwarding mail that wasn't addressed to a specific soldier.

December 13

Merck is recalling more than one million doses of the H-I-B vaccine which protects children from two months to five years old... from meningitis, pneumonia and other serious illnesses.

New research finds one lower lumbar vertebra is wedged-shaped in women and more square in men and a key hip joint is 14 percent larger in women than men which helps pregnant women adjust their center of gravity as they gain all that weight up front.

December 14

The senate passed the bill which aims to get better gas mileage out of the automotive industry. Over the next 13 years cars, small trucks and SUV's must average 35 miles-per-gallon.

December 17

Doctors have used stem cells from liposuction fat to fix breast defects in women who have had cancerous lumps removed.

December 18

Industry officials say 2007 is likely to be the first calendar year in which u-s households spend more on cell phone services than on land-line phones.

The government is promising 45 trillion dollars more than it can deliver over the next 75 years for social security, Medicare and other programs.

December 19

Researchers discovered that a standard vacuum abuses the fleas so much it kills 96 percent of adult fleas and 100 percent of younger fleas.

The federal government will be spending nearly seven million dollars in advertising to prevent drunk driving this holiday season.

December 20

New numbers from Realty-Trac for November show that monthly foreclosures fell 10-percent from October... first time in more than a year.

Toyota is now developing cars that will help seniors drive safely.

December 21

The feds are questioning the 235 million dollars paid to contractors who helped promote the prescription drug benefit for the elderly and disabled.

CNN Money reports that milk prices have soared 23 percent thru November of this year, and people are cutting back on the amount of milk that they buy.

December 24-26

BEST OF SHOWS

December 27

Transportation officials in Canada say the bulky winter jackets can be dangerous inside the car because they prevent seat-belts from securing children in car seats.

For the first time, shares of the technology company hit the 200 dollar mark.

December 28

The IRS says millions of early filers won't get their tax return until early February this year due to congress' late fix to the alternative minimum tax.

Americans will start 2008 paying about 65 cents more a gallon for gas than they did in January 2007, according to fuel industry experts.

December 31

Oil prices have doubled in 2007 from a low point of 50 dollars a barrel – some experts believe 2008 will see prices hit 100 dollars a barrel.

Experts and police departments expect drunk drivers to kill over 180 people on New Year's Eve alone.